

In the Claims:

Amendments to the claims are reflected in the following listing, which replaces any and all prior versions of claims in the present application:

CLAIM LISTING

Claims 1-26 (Cancelled)

27. (Currently amended) A system for handling hydrogen built on a ground surface, said system comprising hydrogen handling equipment including at least piping and valves, said equipment being contained within a substantially sealed enclosure located within a structure that is affixed to the ground, said enclosure being vented to the atmosphere through a vent pipe terminating at a location higher than said equipment.

28. (Original) The system of claim 27, said enclosure being cylindrical.

29. (Original) The system of claim 27, said enclosure and said vent pipe being configured to withstand the detonation of a stoichiometric mixture of hydrogen and air in said enclosure.

30. (Currently amended) The system of claim 27, further comprising a fire suppression system configured to introduce a substantially inert gas into said enclosure.

31. (Original) The system of claim 27, said system being configured to refuel vehicles that consume substantially pure hydrogen.

32. (Original) The system of claim 27, said hydrogen being gas, said system being configured to refuel internal-combustion engine powered vehicles that consume a mixture comprising hydrogen gas and at least one other flammable gas.

33. (Original) The system of claim 32, said system being configured to dispense at least a plurality of substantially different mixture ratios of hydrogen gas and natural gas.

34. (Original) The system of claim 27, said hydrogen being gas, said system being configured to dispense hydrogen gas into a stationary natural gas system.

35. (Original) The system of claim 27, the hydrogen being hydrogen gas, said equipment further comprising at least one compressor configured to compress the hydrogen gas.

36. (Original) The system of claim 27, the system further comprising at least one hydrogen gas storage pressure vessel, said pressure vessel being oriented with a substantially vertical axis, said pressure vessel having a top end and a bottom end.

37. (Currently amended) The system of claim 36, having a plurality of said hydrogen gas storage pressure vessels, each said pressure vessel being oriented with a substantially vertical axis, and each said pressure vessel having at least one control valve piped thereto, the system having a separate said enclosure for said at least one control valve for each pressure vessel.

38. (Original) The system of claim 27, at least some of said piping being located within said vent pipe.

39. (Previously presented) The system of claim 27, said system being substantially shop assembled and tested.

40. (Previously amended) The system of claim 27:
said hydrogen being gas, said system being a stationary facility configured to refuel vehicles that consume hydrogen gas;
said enclosure and said vent pipe being configured to withstand the detonation of a mixture of hydrogen and air in said enclosure;
said system comprising a pressurizing apparatus configured to obtain the result of the hydrogen gas being pressurized;
said system comprising at least one pressure vessel configured to store hydrogen gas, said pressure vessel being a cylinder oriented substantially vertically, said pressure vessel having a top end and a bottom end;
said system further comprising at least one supply pipe configured to carry the hydrogen gas to at least one said pressure vessel, said supply pipe being connected to said pressure vessel;
said system further comprising a dispenser configured to dispense the hydrogen gas to the vehicles; and

said system further comprising a dispensing pipe configured to carry the hydrogen gas to the dispenser.

Claims 41-43 (Cancelled).

44. (Previously amended) A system for handling a flammable substance built on a ground surface, said system comprising flammable substance handling equipment including piping and valves, said equipment being contained within a substantially sealed enclosure affixed to the ground, said enclosure being vented to the atmosphere through a vent pipe terminating at a location higher than said equipment.

Claims 45-46 (Cancelled).

47. (Previously presented) The system of claim 40, wherein said at least one pressure vessel is stored partially below grade.

48. (Previously presented) The system of claim 44, further comprising at least one pressure vessel configured to store hydrogen gas that is stored partially below grade.

49. (New) The system of claim 27, said structure comprising a floor, a plurality of walls emanating from said floor at an angle greater than ninety degrees, and an open top defined by said plurality of walls, wherein said open top has a larger area than an area of said floor.

50. (New) The system of claim 49, said hydrogen being gas, said system being configured to refuel vehicles that consume substantially pure compressed hydrogen gas.

51. (New) The system of claim 49, said hydrogen being gas, said system being configured to refuel internal-combustion engine powered vehicles that consume a mixture comprising hydrogen gas and at least one other flammable gas.

52. (New) The system of claim 49, said system being configured to dispense at least a plurality of substantially different mixture ratios of hydrogen gas and natural gas.

53. (New) The system of claim 49, said equipment further comprising at least one hydrogen generator configured to generate said hydrogen.

54. (New) The system of claim 49, said hydrogen being gas, said equipment further comprising at least one compressor configured to compress said hydrogen gas.

55. (New) The system of claim 49, said hydrogen being gas, said equipment further comprising at least one pressure vessel configured to store said hydrogen gas.

56. (New) The system of claim 55:
said equipment further comprising a pressurizing apparatus; and
said system being configured to dispense at least a plurality of substantially different mixture ratios of hydrogen gas and natural gas.

57. (New) The system of claim 55, said pressure vessel being a cylinder oriented with a substantially vertical axis, said pressure vessel having a top end and a bottom end.

58. (New) The system of claim 49, wherein said equipment further comprises a pressurizing apparatus and at least one of a pressure vessel and a hydrogen generator.